

International Clinical Trials Day 2025 – Rethinking Clinical Trials: Inclusivity in Practice

How do we progress from discussion to action in ensuring the appropriate populations are taken into account in the design of a clinical study? Answers to this and more at ICTD 2025.

International Clinical Trials Day 2025 will focus on ‘Rethinking Clinical Trials: Inclusivity in Practice’. It will be co-hosted by ECRIN (European Clinical Research Infrastructure Network) and its Spanish scientific partner SCReN (Spanish Clinical Research Infrastructure Network) on May 20th, 2025. ICTD commemorates the start of the landmark clinical trial, led by James Lind on sailors with scurvy, 20 May 1747. Having laid the foundation for modern clinical research, ECRIN salutes this initiative by addressing a new topic in clinical research every year on or around this date.

ICTD brings together patients, health policy actors, health authorities, clinical researchers, health professionals and citizens from Europe and beyond to discuss issues related to multinational clinical studies. As a hybrid event it also will be broadcasted online. ICTD 2025 is free and open to all interested, pending available space. Further information and registration will be made accessible via the ECRIN website at <https://ecrin.org/ictd-2025>

Why inclusivity?

The need for greater inclusivity in clinical studies is clear in Europe and there is an increasing obligation to progress from discussion to concrete implementation. By uniting different stakeholders from the community, ICTD will shed light not only on why diversity, equity and inclusion should be embraced in clinical research but will give concrete examples of what has been done so far, where there are still hurdles to overcome, and what is underway to work to resolve these difficulties.

Agenda

To launch the discussion on the day’s theme we will develop a common understanding of key words such as inclusivity and underserved and why they should be on everyone’s mind. Throughout the day different stakeholders will present their perspectives on inclusivity in clinical studies starting with the patients themselves and the ethicist and later from regulators and industry.



Three use cases will be featured to reflect the real-world application in the academic and industry trials. To round off the day panels will be held in the morning (on engaging with underserved populations) and afternoon (on building a clinical trial environment to support inclusivity) to encourage greater discussion between stakeholders and attendees. A couple of EU-funded projects will be featured throughout the day, notably SENSITISE¹ and READI².

About ECRIN

ECRIN is the European Clinical Research Infrastructure Network, a public, non-profit organisation that focuses on the conduct of investigator-initiated multinational clinical studies, as well as clinical studies initiated by SMEs, in Europe. It provides sponsors and investigators with advice, management services and tools to navigate Europe's fragmented health and legal systems on clinical studies. ECRIN has national scientific partners in 13 countries covering more than 360 million citizens. Multi-country clinical trials mean greater access to patients, resources, and expertise, and in turn, faster and potentially more robust results. Patient engagement and involvement, are at the heart of its current ECRIN Strategic Plan and drive our work on topics such as this year's ICTD.

1. SENSITISE - Inclusive Clinical Trials: Training and Education is co-funded by the European Union through the EU ERASMUS + programme (2023-1-IE02-KA220-HED-000159532)



2. READI - Research in Europe and Diversity Inclusion. This project is supported by the Innovative Health Initiative Joint Undertaking (IHI JU) under grant agreement No 101166227. The JU receives support from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme and COCIR, EFPIA, EuropaBio, MedTech Europe, Vaccines Europe, and Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency and Breakthrough T1D. This project is also supported by UKRI (UK Research and Innovation).





Contact information

For more information visit the ICTD page at the ECRIN website or contact ECRIN via mail at media@ecrin.org.

International Clinical Trials Day: <https://ecrin.org/ictd>

Registration for ICTD 2025: <https://ecrin.org/ictd-2025>